

## CLAIMS:

1. A method of deactivating an allergen, the method comprising dispersing into an airspace capable or able to support said allergen an allergen-deactivating amount of an allergen-deactivating compound (hereinafter the "deactivant") comprising one or more of the following materials:  
a citrus oil;  
a mint oil;  
bois de rose oil;  
oil of jasmine;  
frankincense;  
oil of bergamot; and,  
oil of lemon grass.
2. A method as claimed claim 1, wherein the deactivant is dispersed into the airspace as a vapour over an extended period, by the use of heat.
3. A method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the deactivant is dispersed via a wick dipped into a reservoir of the deactivant.
4. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the deactivant is provided as a water-in-oil emulsion containing up to 2% by weight of the deactivant.
5. A method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, wherein the material is incorporated into a candle which is burnt in the space to be treated.
6. A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the candle comprises at least 2% by weight of the deactivant (wt of deactivant/wt of combustible body of the candle).

7. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the deactivant is dispersed into the airspace on two or more occasions, separated by period(s) of no deactivant material.
- 5 8. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, wherein the deactivant is a said oil in its as-extracted form.
9. A method as claimed in any preceding claim, and which employs as deactivant two or more of said compounds, wherein said compounds  
10 are co-dispersed into the airspace.
10. A method as claimed in claim 9, and employing one of the following deactivant combinations;  
oil of bergamot and bois de rose oil;  
15 oil of lemon grass and bois de rose oil;  
a citrus oil and oil of bergamot;  
a citrus oil and oil of jasmine.
11. Use in deactivating an allergen at a locus of one or more of the following  
20 materials:  
a citrus oil;  
a mint oil;  
bois de rose oil;  
oil of jasmine;  
25 frankincense;  
oil of bergamot; and,  
oil of lemon grass.
12. Use of one or more of the following materials:  
30 a citrus oil;  
a mint oil;  
bois de rose oil;  
oil of jasmine;

frankincense;  
 oil of bergamot; and,  
 oil of lemon grass  
 dispersed into an airspace in order to deactivate an allergen on a  
 surface which is within that airspace.

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13. An allergen deactivant, being one of the following:  
 a mixture of oil of bergamot and bois de rose oil;  
 a mixture of oil of lemon grass and bois de rose oil;  
 a mixture of a citrus oil and oil of bergamot;  
 a mixture of a citrus oil and oil of jasmine.

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12. Use of one or more of the following materials:

a citrus oil;  
 a mint oil;  
 bois de rose oil;  
 oil of jasmine;  
 frankincense;  
 oil of bergamot;  
 oil of lemon grass;

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dispersed into an airspace in order to deactivate an allergen on a surface  
 which is within that airspace.

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13. An allergen deactivant, being one of the following:

a mixture of oil of bergamot and bois de rose oil;  
 a mixture of oil of lemon grass and bois de rose oil;  
 a mixture of a citrus oil and oil of bergamot;  
 a mixture of a citrus oil and oil of jasmine.

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